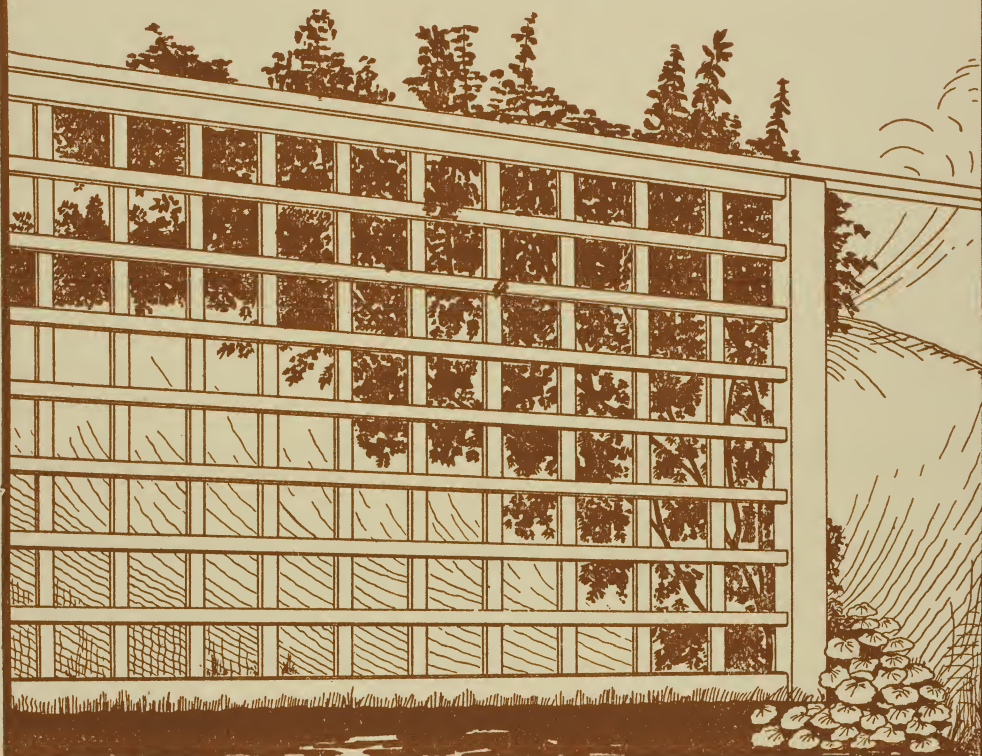


# California Garden



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JUNE, 1922

TEN CENTS



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# The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association  
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 13

POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, JUNE, 1922

No. 12

## EDUCATION IN FLOWERS

Ada York  
County Superintendent of Schools

Education can give us nothing of greater importance than the ability to find sources of happiness as we live our lives in this world in which we find ourselves. Education is not book learning. It is the science of dealing with the facts of life, which science involves the adjustment to environment and a consideration of the insistent needs of body, mind, and soul, leading to the development of practices that meet the conditions and these claims economically.

Stevenson once said, "To miss the joy in life is to miss all; in the joy of the actor lies the sense of any action." Doubtless, it is reasonable for us to believe that the end and aim of all our complex life is to have a greater modicum of happiness for every mortal. So, when we plan our courses of study, we should have as one of the objectives the joy that may be furnished the learner.

That human being who can find pleasure in the flowers of the field the birds of the air, the stars in the sky, and in any or all of the manifestations of nature is rich in treasure that can never be exhausted. When our children are led to have a love and appreciation of

"The great, round, beautiful, wonderful world  
With the wonderful water around it curled."  
they are being given the key to life's highest enjoyment, the love of nature. The seeing eye, the feeling soul \* \* \* that will mean the enrichment of the child, mentally and spiritually.

The arrangement made each year by the San Diego Floral Association to have a wild flower exhibit by the children in our public schools is a direct contribution to the educational program of the year. There is usually a quick response on the part of many of our country schools. It is safe to say that if each year the word announcing this flower show could be circulated earlier, more of our schools would participate in the exhibit. It has happened for several years that many schools did not receive the circular concerning the project until it was too late for them to take advantage of the opportunity offered.

San Diego County has a rich flora, and the

children in the rural schools get much inspiration and pleasure in studying the wild flowers. The thought of conservation has been stressed so that even the little children learn to gather wisely and well. The artistic arrangement of the flowers is also a subject of study; but it is of slower attainment than the practice of conservative picking; for somehow, a little child does not readily adopt the ideas of display that have been acquired by adults only after much training. As the school room is the child's own indoor world, it is sometimes thought best to allow him to express his own ideals of flower arrangement, gradually leading him to that of the teacher's standard, which is of course that of the adult.

Naming the flowers is one of the most inviting ways of getting close to Mother Nature. Infinite in number and variety are the flowers within sight of the country child. They border the highway, they color the fields, and they are a part of the school grounds. The teachers take advantage of this big asset in educational material; the procession of the flowers that starts in early February, sometimes earlier, is observed, oftentimes recorded, and fresh specimens are made to serve double duty, being pressed and mounted for the school herbarium. Knowledge of them becomes a part of the child's equipment for a happy reaction to the facts of environment.

The trophies that are given each year by the Floral Association are permanent properties of the schools that have won them. It adds to the school spirit, it stirs the interests of the community, and as an incentive to emphasizing the appreciation of the beauty that surrounds us. It seems to me that the annual wild flower show is very much worth while.

To the boys and girls who engage in this pleasant activity, there comes a reverence for the meaning of the flowers.

"Flower in the crannied wall,  
I pluck you out of the crannies;—  
Hold you here, root and all, in my hand,  
Little flower,—but if I could understand  
What you are, root and all, and all in all,  
I should know what God and man is."

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### MORE FROM BARNHART

Gardeners who have a desire for a fine show of annuals during the spring months, other than our natives, will do well to get a few seeds of *Schizanthus retusus*, one of the tribe known as Butterfly plants. It is very spectacular in appearance. The plant grows about two feet tall, and the flowers are larger than those of the variety generally grown on this coast. The standard is a dark golden color, bordered with red and the wings are red. A very showy plant when enmassed. John Bodger & Sons grow the seeds—and there won't be more than an ounce of it this season—and Morris & Snow Seed Co., Los Angeles, sell it. This may seem like a free advertisement, and it is, but in this case it can't be helped. To be sure, everybody knows of *Schizanthus wisetonensis*, the variety long grown in these parts. It is not generally known that they are a hardy annual, and do not require the coddling method now practiced to bring them to perfection. The tribe is a native of Chili and Peru, therefore fits into our climate. I suspect that the rough stuff weather that hit us last January would kill little, unprotected plants.

There is an annual from Australia—*Brachycome iberidifolia*; Swan River Daisy is the common name—that deserves a place in every border of annuals. The petals are very narrow, not close together, which give the flower the appearance of a little wheel with each spoke distinct.

Very like unto this annual, is a perennial, native of the eastern part of this country. The flowers are like little daisies, and last well when cut. Their season is late summer. Its name is *Boltonia latissuama*, and adapts itself to our dry climate.

Recently I saw a large bed of *Nemesia* with flowers the color of Forget-me-nots, and not very much larger. There are some flowers which have become fixed in our psychology, that, when a break occurs in the color it doesn't seem to be the proper thing. This is one of them. The good old *Strumosa* is the one that appeals to me, because of its vivid coloring, and the large flowers. All the variations of our California Poppy are not equal to the original orange. The hybrids of *Gazania* are all inferior to the original *Splendens*, yes and for a border, where little water is available, it has not superior even unto this day. Because it is hardy and tough, it gets more abuse than any other plant I know of. Bermuda grass is permitted to grow among it, scale pest are allowed to feed upon it, and the average gardener seems to think that it will do well on wind, and a very little water. In very truth, it, like all other plants, waxes fat if fed, and given some attention.

You will observe that I am in this valley (Lompoc) of very peculiar climate, temperature June 1st 5 a. m. 54, humidity 89, at noon it was ten degrees warmer and by two o'clock I had to put on an overcoat for comfort, but it is great for the growing of Sweet Peas. John Bodger & Sons now grow their

Sweet Peas in this valley, and this season they have 400 acres. Burpee & Co have 150 acres, Antone Zvolanek 40 acres, Jerome B. Rice 50 acres, so you see there is something doing in Sweet Pea seed production.

Did you ever hear of *Saponaria Ocyroides*? Everybody knows the weedy, robust *Saponaria Officialis*, Bouncing Bet is one of the common names applied to it, another is Soap Plant, hardy as a pine knot. Well *Ocyroides* is quite a different looking plant, very dwarf, six or eight inches high, and a mass of pink flowers. Seems to me it would make a good border plant for gardens on this coast. This subject I met with on the Burpee seed farm which has the euphonious name of Floradale. They have a collection of *Lathyrus*, perennial species from Europe which is unique. Unlike anything that I have ever seen, sixty-seven varieties of them, some have simple, other compound foliage, all a dense mass of green. The flowers are of every conceivable color, yellow, white, red, blue, maroon, the interesting thing about the combination is that they are very small and sprinkled among the foliage in a fascinating fashion. To be sure the fellow who can see no beauty in anything less than a bunch of Sweet Peas or a McArthur rose need not cultivate this plant, but for artistic beauty, yet unspoiled by the hand of man these *Lathyrus* are in a class by themselves. I don't know that they are even catalogued. I shall surely give it a try in Los Angeles.

### THE GRAY GOOSE SAYS

If little, noisy windmills, on end of poles, are stuck up over fruit trees the birds stay away. They evidently dislike things that make rapid motions and get nowhere.

Copious winter rains put pep in the ground for the flower seeds. Those five inch bushes of mignonette were sowed in furrows in sandy ground four weeks ago; came up in five days; have had frequent hoeing between the rows and no irrigation except one little shower from the skies a week ago.

That ill-bred Blue Jay, who winters here, makes me laugh when he eats a snail. If he would swallow it quickly and in the altogether as I have taught you to do, my dear goslings, he would not make such frantic antics wiping his beak. One's early training is surely revealed in table manners.

### CORONADO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Following, and as a direct result of the very successful Flower Show held last month at Coronado, that city has formed a Floral Association with the following officers:

Harold A. Taylor, President; Mrs. Marshall O. Terry, Vice-President; Mrs. James MacMullen Secretary; Mrs. Joseph H. Pendleton, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee as follows: Miss Lillian McManus, Mrs. Frank Hall Moon, Mrs. Harold A. Taylor, Mrs. Armand Jessop, Mrs. Wm. Barrie, Mrs. Frank Von Tesmar.

## LAST CALL FOR JUNE PLANTING

June is the last call for planting Dahlias, Asters, Zinnias and Chrysanthemums, probably the four most popular of Summer and Fall blooming flowers, and grown everywhere, East, West, North and South, though the kinds vary according to locality, likewise, time of blooming. Here we are blessed with a long period of growth and bloom, and I believe it is usually conceded that California leads in fine Dahlias and Zinnias, and everywhere seedmen are offering seeds of non-lateral Asters. All need practically the same care, ample water when needed, rich soil and frequent cultivation—put in a few of each if you have not room for large numbers—and bring them to perfection for the Fall Show. I am beginning to think that the greatest thing in the Flower Shows held all over the country nowadays is not who can grow the finest specimen individually but there educative value as a whole. Robert Henri, the artist, whom we all came to know and admire during exposition days, says in a letter to a friend, "The day will come when people will see in beautiful flowers grown in abundance and in order, not only a thing to please, but a medium for the expression of the best in them and an inspiration to a truer and fuller life. Whoever works to inspire the growth and love of flowers—not in private enclosures only, but broadcast everywhere—will do a great and valuable work for humanity."

June and July are the best months for planting Iris, that is those of the Germanica type. If you want fine blooms, give good culture, have your soil well worked and if lime is needed, work it in as a top dressing after growth begins.

Lack of lime in the soil is very apt to cause leaf spot. Our Florentine Iris, so common here, is very subject to this disease but there are exceptions in the use of lime. The beardless group of Spuria will not grow in a soil impregnated with lime. The best known of this type in this section is Ochroleuca (Orientalis)—tall, hardy plants with large white flowers and yellow at the throat; these should always be grown in full sunshine. Some of the newer bearded Iris are wonderful but there are older ones that still hold their own. I have lately got hold of a few roots of the old Flavescens, an early bloomer and a lovely pure creamy yellow, no markings. Caterina has done well with me, and for an early blooming blue or violet? I much like Kochii, and one should always try a few of the dwarf early bearded ones, Iris Pumila. Then, too, later in the season there will be the planting of the various bulbous kinds, but we must remember what one collector says, "When it comes to buying Iris, it makes one shut the pocket book thoughtfully."

Seeds of perennials can be put into boxes this month to good advantage—Stocks for winter blooming should go in and of these, buy the very best seeds to be had and insist on their being in separate colors, Beauty of Nice is the best. Towards the end of the month make a sowing of Mignonette, also of cornflowers and scarlet Flax, Calendulas can also be started.

Bulbs that have matured their foliage and are to be divided should be lifted now and put in a cool dry place. If you value the bulbs you have left in the ground do not plant any cover crop; it very materially lessens the soundness of them, from the water that must be given at times through the summer, if you do not like the bare spots it is better to lift your bulbs and replant in the fall. Numbers of us, I suppose, have received the little book sent out, "What are you doing with bulbs in your section", remember the import law.

### DEATH FROM SNAKE BITES

#### RARE IN U. S., FIGURES SHOW

Although the average mortality from American venomous snakes is a little more than 10 per cent of the persons bitten, death from snake bites is quite rare, according to the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture, because relatively few persons encounter or are bitten by the dangerous species.

The most venomous of our native snakes live in lonely, little-settled districts, often on stony or swampy land that cannot be cultivated. Usually they disappear at the approach of man, and while they may strike if provoked, the popular belief in respect to the distance they can strike is erroneous. Three-fourth of their own length is about the greatest distance possible. If the legs are well protected when one is going into deep woods or places known to be infested by rattlers or other poisonous snakes, there is slight chance of being bitten.

As the food of snakes consists of living prey, they cannot be killed by poisoned baits. The only method thus far devised to kill them seems to be clubbing or shooting. This is best done in early spring, when they are still sluggish after the winter hibernation. Allowing hogs free run of infested land may reduce the number of snakes. However, the popular idea that hogs are immune to snake bite is probably based on the impenetrability by the venomous fangs of their thick skin and fat layer rather than on actual immunity of these animals.

The varieties most commonly found in this country are the Elapidae, or Harlequin snakes and the Crotalidae, or "pit vipers," which include rattlesnakes, cotton-mouth water moccasins, and copperheads.



### THE LATHHOUSE

Did you pay any attention to the last article under this head? I want to know because I take time to tell you about the lathhouse which I ought to spend working in it.

All Begonias are in vigorous growth, this means water every day that is warm and soon may ask for it twice in twenty-four hours. Particularly must those in hanging baskets and pots be watched. Taking this family in pieces so to say, Rexes are now making their best leaves, for perfect development they require not only water to the root but a moist condition under the leaves, hanging baskets afford this where the moss is kept uniformly moist and at this season with their drainage over-watering is hardly possible and it might be remarked that the temperature of water and air is sufficiently close to make any time of the day good for sprinkling. Pots are not good for Rexes though they are possible where placed on moist sand. An ideal condition is found in the ground where moss or *Nertera Depressa* covers. Remove all old and injured leaves and use for cuttings which root easily in sand either from the stem or sections of leaf bearing a strong rib. If the soil for Rexes has not been enriched give weak liquid manure once a week. Rexes like some sun but no heat above 70, the sun gives color.

The tuberous should be making bud, the taller growers must be staked at once as the connection between growth and tuber is weak they naturally tend to divide there. Be very careful if in pots to see that drainage is perfect, they must have lots of water but one day of a water-logged state will discourage them for the season. The hanging varieties are already quite tall getting ready to drape over the sides. They are encouraged to longer life and fuller baskets by pinching back and these raped portions will root readily in sand, this applies also to the common tuberous kind. If you have the strength of mind to pinch off the first buds the ultimate result will repay, but I don't do it because I cannot wait.

The bedding type, Vernon and such, can still be moved and divided, they should never be allowed to grow tall, just pluck them for cut flowers and learn what real persistence and courage is. I have a seedling pink that has thrown individual flowerets three inches across. These should be used inside and out in shaded spots, they grow like grass from seed and delightful variations occur.

The tall tree kinds, Coralline Lucerne, Rubras, etc., must be staked and tied most carefully, particularly the former the bunches of bloom are so heavy. I remember going into a lathhouse in San Diego where a wonderful specimen of this was reaching for the roof, at the top of a bamboo-like stalk were five separate and immense bunches of bloom so close they touched, noticing that the last tie to the

stake was below all this blooms I implored the owner to tie it up higher or let me do so, but I am afraid we both forgot in looking at other marvels and within two hours the whole glorious crown came down with a crash. The other big ones are not so heavy, but they must be staked. See to it now.

The medium growers, Haageana Viaude, etc., also must be staked but three or four stakes to a plant is better than one so that room can be given for a symmetrical development.

Don't forget NOT to monkey round the roots of Begonias, put your renewing material on the top and also keep in mind that a wet surface may hide a dry below. A sprinkler run for an hour or so is indicated every two weeks at least.

I recently visited several nurseries at Los Angeles in search of new Begonias. Stupid was it not? I know so now. But I got a few things a Countess Louise Erdody, (have you heard Dr. Houghton put the emphasis on the "DO"), a curly Rex that is already boosting for San Diego, and I boldly declaimed if you want Begonias come to San Diego. By the way the demand for Begonias up there has been much on the increase, so get busy in this direction nursery folks.

The humming birds are building in my lathhouse again and though I love them they have a pinhead brain. There is one which

*Continued on page 10*

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# The June & July Gardens

## MAY MEETING

The regular monthly meeting for May was held the evening of May 23d, 8 p. m., at the residence of Miss Hortense Coulter, 3162 Second street. The evening was spent chiefly in discussing the various phases of the past show and plans for the future. Mr. Robinson, President, brought up the subject of the El Monte Oaks, the committee in charge have gone actively to work and the Floral Association hopes soon to fulfill the promises they made in the matter. Various specimens were shown and the nature of the cultivation explained. Mr. Lawrence, as usual, brought good specimens, this time with some fine Columbines. The meeting adjourned with a vote of thanks to Miss Coulter, and the wish that every one who can will attend the annual meeting at the San Diego Club house, June 20th, at 8 p. m.

MARY A. MATTHEWS, Secretary.

## FERNS

It must be admitted that ferns don't like our brand of climate, all our natives either get in a bog hole or go into a dormant condition for the summer, and this latter habit is the main reason why attempts at transplanting them to our gardens and lathhouses are generally failures, they want to go to sleep in the hot dry time and if they cannot keep dry they die. It is the same story as that of making garden plants of our native shrubs and trees and probably accounts for the failure to have a *Fremontia* in every yard. *Fremontia* is not a fern, it is a native shrub with ivy-like leaves and deep yellow blooms, somewhat resembling a mallow, it is found sparsely in our mountains near the Mexican line and plentifully in Lower California. Mrs. R. C. Allen always creates perfectly green envy by showing each year great sprays of it grown at Bonita, she has been most generous in distributing seeds, but the writer has yet to know of one good-sized bush elsewhere, he had seed in quantity tried it in the open, in flats with and without water and care, and raised several to a foot high and then—well that is all. No apology is made for this digression, the Subject is worth it and more.

Returning to ferns, their requirements are much the same as *Begonias* and therefore many varieties can be successfully grown in lathhouses. Tersely put they want perfect drainage and lots of water. Our native *Woodwardia* does well, though late in the summer its leaves will spot, and there are other tall

## THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

By Walter Birch

The early summer weather at this writing is quite in keeping with our cold, wet winter and backward spring, and so far neither plants or annuals have suffered from the heat. In fact the weather has been very favorable for the breeding of aphids, and snails have been even more in evidence than usual. By the way, talking of snails, try some tobacco dust for them and watch the result.

Continue planting beans for a succession of crops, also sweet corn, radish, carrots, beets, etc., in fact most of the small seeds. Of plants you can still set out sweet potatoes and yams, they do well in any good garden soil, more particularly the lighter kinds, and make a valuable addition to the bill of fare for dinner. You can also set out some peppers and egg plant if you have not already done so, likewise tomatoes, than which there is nothing more wholesome. Remember that good cultivation or in other words a good seed bed is of prime importance to the success of your garden. A seed bed of fine tilth—made so by thorough spading and cultivation, is essential for the best germination of seeds and growth of young plants. Good soil and fine tilth furnish best conditions for root development. Upon the fine, hairy, fibrous feeding roots, which are possible only in well tilled soil, the plant depends for its stockiness and growth.

Pulverized sheep manure is a valuable and quickly available fertilizer for either the lawn, flower or vegetable garden, and a sack or two of this, worked in the soil where the roots will reach it, will go a long way and work wonders for your plants. Do not allow weeds to grow and sap the moisture and use up the plant foods in your soil, and keep the soil uniformly moist, so that with steady cultivation your plants may continue to grow without a check, insuring you quality as well as quantity for the table.

growers more satisfactory, one of the very best being *Lonchitis Pubescens*, a long stemmed palm-like species with glaucous fronds, several of the large *Davallia* are good and *Cibotium Barometz*. The *Pteris* provide a wealth of subjects, but the best small fern is *Blechnum occidentale*, which is always sending up its pinky new fronds and is good for cutting. *Onychium Japonicum* is splendid

*Continued on page 9*

# The California Garden

A. D. Robinson, Editor  
Office, Rosecroft, Point Loma, Cal.

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## The San Diego Floral Association

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### EDITORIAL

Anent comment in the last Garden relative to the participation in Flower Shows by Mayors and Aldermen and "such potent grave and reverend seignours" we have been handed a newspaper report of a flower show held in one of the principal cities of this country in which it is said that officials flocked to it, archdeacons and lesser church luminaries preached about it as a Mecca and school authorities hailed it as an educative feature. Of course this happened in the East to a town that is not just now a white spot on the business map of—well whose business map is it and why? but that program to connect officialdom and the Flower Show is growing more definite all the time, and if there had been a flower show we would have invited Secretary Denby to attend—just to fill in his odd moments.

There is a mild kind of hope that this number will be out in time for the Floral Association annual meeting on June 20th in the San Diego Club House, and on that poor chance we would have a little to say about it. Whatever may be done in the way of entertainment is undertaken to secure a large attendance to transact important business, folks have to be kidded into attending to their own business very often, such as hearing reports from officers, for which faithful service should secure at least an appearance of interested attention, and this year they are worthy of it, they are always very brief because the makers usually dislike making them more than the audience do hearing them, still it is suggested that they are really of genuine interest in themselves. And the election of officers. We pause to wonder why this is always either slurred over or hopelessly complicated

by some one or more precedents often quite imaginary. It is more than ridiculous, it is dangerous to indulge in complimentary votes, there is but one qualification for a director in such an organization as the Floral Association and that is aptitude for and willingness to serve as such. This is our opinion, others may have quite different views to which they are entitled, but there can be no dissent to the obligation to vote and think while you do so. Finally we know more than one member who does not vote for best friends because they love both these friends and the Floral Association and realize the two won't mix.

So much about getting Directors, a word about how to treat them when gotten. In a long experience with a large number of Directors we have never known one who did not take the job seriously, that is when on the job for there have been those who either from disability or disinclination failed to do much directing, these most often belong in the Complimentary class. They must have one point of view, the good of the organization, in the settlement of any question they are likely to have a well assorted knowledge upon which they act to their judgment. Is it not because of the likelihood of their so doing that they are elected? Now it may arise in the course of human affairs even in this our fair city, that friendship must be forgotten in directorship and then comes the test not only of the director but those who elected. Disloyalty to a Directorate is crime, however manifested, whether in actual fact or inuendo or mere insistence on a personal view.

This is a hard doctrine in a land where the political "Outs" spend their time and money traducing the "Ins", perhaps not hard so much as laughable and there's the pity of it. Let it go at that if only you will vote instead of merely pushing a pencil.

The other day a retired physician, who retired because he was so successful that he overworked, put forward the theory that in forsaking many of the ways of our forefathers we were giving up the tools that had shaped us as we are. The part of this that belongs here was the more specific statement that in getting away from the ground we were up in the air so to speak. That we must suffer physically as a race from an age of cement pavement, concrete buildings and autos, even if we rode further and wore thinner footgear. All this came about because our meeting was at the starting point of a campaign trip. This physician lives when he camps and exists between times. We don't ever expect to think on this matter as much as the doctor, we also are too busy trying to make camping time, but we suspect that such a thought may be quite prevalent, it is a common enough prescription, "Go up on the mountains or into the country" and all over the land now the people are acquiring featureful spots as picnic grounds. Our latest and best is the El Monte Oaks, which the County bought after

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the Floral Association had introduced the two and made them well acquainted. We believe that Saint Peter will swing wide the pearly gates to the supervisors who did this thing and some day their descendants will take friends to read on a suitable tablet, "This Park was acquired by the People in 1921", and then will follow the names of the supervisors and we hope a brief footnote mentioning that the Floral Association co-operated. We of this wondrous land of America have learned how to work, may we say like the devil, now we must acquire the habit of playing, not like that gentleman on a vacation, but like children. Every San Diegan should visit his El Monte Park and it won't hurt him or the Park to strut about a bit and feel ownership.

#### K. O. S.

These three letters are mighty well known in the gardens of the West, they are the initials of our only Miss Sessions, so much of a pioneer that it has been requested that a brief sketch of her connection with San Diego be given in the Garden. Miss Sessions was born in San Francisco, and she came to San Diego in the early eighties to teach school, but in 1885 she started in the nursery business in Coronado and kept that location for five years, then she moved to the northwest corner of the City Park, right opposite the Marston place, having the use of thirty acres for which she paid as rent trees, etc., for city purposes. The trees on Fifth street and on all the old school grounds, the B street and the Sherman school, came to be planted in this way. The nursery grounds were also planted to trees and K. O. S. grew from seed and planted the biggest Torrey Pine above Quince. When Miss Sessions moved to this Park location there were only three house between Upas and Mission Cliffs.

In 1903 the Nursery was moved to the present location at Lewis and Stephens and had only to pass one or two old shacks to get there. The demand for building lots constricted the nursery so that in 1914 Miss Sessions acquired the Pacific Beach property she now owns, where she grows some stock, but her idea was to divide it into small tracts and form a colony of flower growers. The situation and soil are both favorable, but the war that made nothing of so many plans, stopped this development, but the idea persists. Miss Sessions, who has made so many gardens for other folks, wants one of her own and her heart is on the slope to Soledad.

Asked to particularize the things she had introduced to San Diego, she mentioned right off Bouganvillea Lateoritis, the red kind that is effective in the Park square. In default of success at propagating this from cuttings she evolved the method of layering by building up a trellis to support boxes in which the shoots were layered. Lots of folks will remember

wondering why those boxes were hung up in her big creeper. She also made the Cocos Plumosa Palm popular and has brought in a large number of heathers. Statice, before the days of our Everlasting fields at Pacific Beach were a main interest, and she discovered the best seedling Rommeya Coulteri or Matilija Poppy and developed a technique for its successful propagation.

Miss Sessions confesses to a weakness for vines and she found and captured the evergreen grapes that adorn so many porches and pergolas.

This is but a mere suggestion of what our Garden folks, owe K. O. S. and thousands will go to that home to be build near Soledad to see her at home, but they must not be in a hurry, for her first job after planting the garden will be to write a gardening book and of course all will agree that nothing must interfere with that.

#### THE ROSE

By E. Benard.

The rose of tomorrow is grown from today so that although the best blooms of the year have blown and gone the summer care of the bushes is very important.

Mildew has been especially bad, to leave it untreated is to weaken the bushes. Spray with Lime Sulphur solution or dust on flour of sulphur after sprinkling, the effect is greater on a warm day as it is the sulphur fumes that gets the mildew. Mildew is always worse in protected spots for the fungus is blown around and settles in these.

A mild pruning is beneficial, cut all bloom stalks back to a good sound eye having in mind the shape of the bush.

Fertilize with cow manure by preference, if this cannot be obtained a commercial blood and bone will make a substitute, don't give nitrates or any stimulant for the growth now wants to be stocky. With fertilizing of course watering must be practised preferably by basining and filling the basin two or three times so that the effect goes well below the roots. Cultivate as soon as possible after irrigating and a mulch is always beneficial.

Planting may still be done from pots or boxes, but not from balled plants, these bushes should have been kept in the nursery in the sun so that the transplanting will not be a shock. Of course this does not mean it is the time to plant roses, but there are always a lot of folks who won't plant unless they do it when they happen to think of it and now is better than no time, besides bushes planted now will, if given care, give plenty of bloom in the spring.

—BUY W. S. S.—

Money talks! Don't let it say Goodbye!

—BUY W. S. S.—

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

## The Other Fellow, You And The Editor

A number of perfectly good writers have failed to come to time for this number which considering previous progress is rushing to print for the annual meeting with the odds heavily against it and being sort of wrought up the editor grabs the space to tell of his troubles.

You don't know what a number and how wonderful a variety of folks know about the Garden and how anxious they are to help fill up its space. These start with the Government bureaus with an infinity of subjects from the rust on snapdragons to lice on hogs and back again through War Savings Stamps and Loans to Farmers. Then there are the Political parties who are keenly anxious that you should understand what liars the other side are. But the number of Press bureaus that send insidiously worded propaganda for free publication is legion. Now the editor opens all this mail and reads a lot of it and ceases to wonder why there is now and then a shortage of printing paper as the waste basket fills and empties and fills again. Just now he has a communication on his desk that should interest all you folks who should write garden articles and don't for its headliner is an offer to send one hundred orations, Essays, Debates, Addresses and Papers all on different subjects for \$5, and he is sorely tempted to invest and quit worrying about your backsliding.

Glancing down that formidable list he finds he could put on a dress suit with one hand in his pants pocket the other raised to the North star (there is a picture) and tell you how to present a Gold watch or a travelling bag in good shape, how criminals are made or how to impersonate a teacher taking farewell of her school. Having a Bolshevik of his own at school the editor can believe this last one might have a lot of pep if properly done. Only \$5 and you are equipped to go off becomingly every week for two years. Of course it would be embarrassing if you ran against another \$5 investor with the same address in his pocket, but the prospectus says these speeches are printed on a good quality of white paper of a size to carry two or more conveniently in the clothes so it would be possible to pair off your subjects.

It is evident that these orations, etc., are being sold and more being manufactured for three college men are constantly grinding out new material, just like making Fords, a speech on anything in 24 hours.

So much has been written about this because the general excuse when a request for an article is made is, Oh I cannot write, and the funny part is that nearly all these decliners can talk to beat the band. This Garden magazine wants written talk, it is not ambitious to be a sample of literary style or even Eng-

lish as she is writ. There is no such conversational bore as the man of many and continual speeches and there is not such delightful reading as the unpremeditated thinking in print of one who is so full of the subject that he forgets himself. Self-consciousness is the only reason why hundreds of people in San Digo do not and say they cannot write most interesting articles for the Garden. It must be admitted that the physical effort of writing or pounding a typewriter interferes with the even flow of ideas with those whose thoughts come crowding out of their mouths like chickens out of a coop, but they might try a stenographer behind them and then turn in the result without looking at it. Such things would be worth while in most cases, full of enthusiasm, breathless moments and best of all individuality.

The Garden is anxious to preserve records of the little San Diego that straggled around the Bay, its baby time, just as we have baby-books telling when our baby first smiled, stepped, teethed, etc. It knows that in many memories are still vivid pictures of canyons now filled, hills levelled, trees that are gone. There must be pictures of poppies blooming where the goat now browses on sawdust, sandy hillocks where now the sardine smells and fields of chocolate bells and other flowers

## *The* FLOWER SHOP



Cut Flowers  
Floral Designs

*Miss Rainford*

*1115 Fourth St.*

**Patronize the Garden Advertisers.**

getting as rare as the Dodo and why cannot we have them on exhibition for all.

There are, or there were, the two old palms at Old Town, one has gone quite recently. What a poem the right party could find in them and where is the oldest inhabitant who will tell us about them as they were as far back as he can go? What was at the corner of Fifth and Broadway one hundred years ago? We have had pictures of the shacks of fifty years back, but in these things of nature fifty years is but yesterday. We have marked the way of the Mission Fathers we hope to restore their Mission itself, why not dig out the route of the old stage coaches, their stopping places their running schedule, they were the next step in the march to the city of today. Rapidly we are realizing the value of these old things, to hear about them adds so much interest to driving around, it stirs the imagination pleasantly while riding in a swift auto on paved roads to hear of the stages rocketing over the stones and through the dust behind the sweating mustangs with the leather springs creaking in protest, the passengers too full of weariness and dust to do much but groan feebly. Did the driver report about the flowers on the way. Did he say the lilacs are in bloom at Alpine—but was there any Alpine or Willows or the rest of it? You see what a field for pleasant reverie.

The Garden asks for the stories of the old times the older the better. Who will send in the first?

## FERNS

*Continued from page 5*

with very feathery fronds, also good for cutting. A good, dark green fern of splendid habit is generally known as the K. O. S., it having been introduced by Miss Sessions, it probably has a longer and less pleasing name. It is generally supposed that greenhouse and expert knowledge is necessary to handle the maidenhairs or Adiantums, this in spite of the proof to the contrary given in the magnificent specimens exhibited last year by Mrs. Chamberlain of Ocean Beach who grew them on her open porch with North exposure. Adiantums don't like the glass house here, they prefer the lathhouse and are happiest in hanging baskets, a number of kinds can be grown thus very successfully if kept continually wet and free from slugs, their worst enemy, with aphids second. One of the easiest to grow is Grandiceps, the tasselled Cuneatum, which has a very full tassel at the end of each frond, which also makes a complete turn, this is very handsome. Of course Cuneatum and Croweannum, this last has the pink new fronds when well grown. Gracillimum, the very fine one, is dainty and lovely. Wiegandi an upright stiff grower does well and the small bunchy Bellum is also quite happy.

A scented variety, Hemsleyanum, is good, but the big ones that come from the tropics require considerable heat and the wonderful fluffy Farleyense won't live and even the Gloriosa heralded as being quite hardy also objects to a residence here. The writer has had but limited success with the Nephrolepis or Boston ferns and that little has been when growing them in dense shade. The soil for ferns should be open and light with a modicum of sand and a little charcoal. The leaf mold if used should be real soil rather than dried leaves, it must be free from alkali, and that reminds that we are fortunate in having such good mountain water, for a hard water is death to ferns. When in full growth they appreciate liquid fertilizer every third or fourth watering, but it must be weak. For aphids, the black kind that attacks ferns, use blackleaf Forty according to directions, for slugs, hunt them at night with an electric torch. Successful use of an old dinner fork for this purpose has been reported while a pair of candy tongs has also been recommended, slugs die in lime or salt. Recently a very minute snail was found to be ruining a basket of fern, too small a snail to pick up, but he was ousted by covering the surface of the basket with slacked lime and the fern came happily through, and it probably would do no harm to give all fern baskets such a coat.

Ferns cannot be grown on a sunny porch nor will they do well in the ordinary living room but an acceptable atmosphere can be made in a lathhouse.

## PAN'S EYES

We strayed in elfin gardens, gay  
With flowers of varied hue,  
Brodiea and Gilia  
And Nemophila blue;  
Ceanothus thrysiflorus,  
Solanum Xanti sweet,  
Dodecatheon meadia  
Were flocking at our feet.

I heard a laugh, saw mocking eyes  
Flecked with brown and yellow,  
In jacket green there shook and jeered  
Pandeon, impish fellow;  
"Ho, ho; ha, ha, these mortals wise!  
They'll never know it all;  
No bud that blows would ever rise  
For such outlandish call;  
Each has a name like each sweet self,  
Each answers to it well  
When showers call; what are the names?  
I'll never, never tell."

Our leader saw some golden blooms,  
Then teacherwise began;  
"Here's Viola pedunculata,—"  
But I saw the eyes of Pan!  
E. S. RYAN.



# JUST WHAT TO PLANT NOW

By F. A. Bode

Asters, branching sorts.

Zinias.

Dahlias.

Marigolds.

Lobelia.

Scabiosus.

All Evergreens.

Citrus trees.

Palms.

Coleus.

Alternanthea.

Chrysanthemums.

Begonias.

Ferns.

Shrubs of all kinds.

## The Dahlia

Dahlias may still be planted if tubers or green plants can be obtained, and it is not generally known that a dahlia in quite vigorous growth can be moved if the growths are cut back to one bud and the ground very carefully firmed.

From now on dahlias must not suffer for water, if the foliage turns bluey get water on quickly. A mulch round dahlias is most useful against the hot sun and conserves moisture.

If you don't want to stake your dahlias cut them back right to the last eye, first on the main shoot then on the two resulting side shoots and even again on the next four. This treatment strengthens the plants very greatly and with most varieties will render staking unnecessary.

Fertilizing should not be done till the buds begin to form. Almost any kind is good, but this flower loves ammonia and splendid blooms can be grown by the application of weak solutions of common washing ammonia. The experts claim that soot water will give great color and good stem, but they specify the Scotch variety that comes from peat smoke and which is so precious that it should be kept in a safe.

The multiplication ad lib if not ad nauseam of dahlia varieties has crowded out lots of the good old kinds and today many of the popular ones are too big and coarse though the range of color is amazing. The writer has some new ones that sound like a movie repertoire, Tango Girl, The Millionaire, Yselata, Billie Burke, Stunner, etc., and is willing to bet before the season is over he sighs for Grand Duke Alexis and Encore.

"Economy is near to the keystone of character and success. A boy that is taught to save his money will rarely be a bad man or a failure. The man who saves will rise in his trade or profession steadily; this is inevitable."—Gladstone.

—BUY W. S. S.—

## THE LATH HOUSE

*Continued from page 4*

selected a location right over the path we traveled every day just to be near us, presumably, and after hatching one of those little black gnats of young, decided to go into apartments because we still walked by and woke the child. I navigated miles so did the rest of the family in an effort not to have that absurd bird put on the starter, but all to no avail. She was an unnatural mother who had found a goat in me. The Family decently interred the deserted offspring, but still shy around that nest. I have no recipe for getting hummingbirds to build in lathhouses nor for making them behave after they have done it and the recital of this domestic tragedy is not to be taken as an excuse for asking any question about the affairs of this species, consult the Natural History Museum.

Get out and live in your lathhouses, you will like it and I believe your plants will also.

## SPARE THE YUCCA

Persons who cut down the yucca plant or Spanish bayonet will be prosecuted to the extent of the law, according to word received from the forest service.

The plant has been declared under protection the same as timber in forest reserves and its destruction is a violation of the law punishable by a \$1000 fine, a year in prison, or both.

## You're Not Licked

— Until you quit. Don't quit buying U. S. Saving Certificates, they will help you win. Ask your postmaster about the Treasury Savings Stamps and Treasury Savings Certificates.

The price of a \$25 Treasury Savings Certificate this month is \$20.85.

# Pickings and Peckings

By THE EARLY BIRD

If I were Harry Lauder I would say I have been to all the shows around here shaking hands with the girls and looking at the flowers and I tell you if they had been all under one roof it would have been some show, then I laugh, but I don't know how to spell it.

I am going to tell you about those shows because I expect I am the only one who went to all of them, but before I do I might mention that I am writing this sitting under a big oak in the El Monte Grove, which will stand as a monument to those who preserved this noble and unique group of trees for themselves and posterity long after you and I and the rest have quit punching typewriters or leaving empty boxes and cans where we have picnicked.

I have not written for so long that the callous on my finger tips has softened and I had thought to give everyone, including myself, a rest, for it did seem that darned nearly everybody was writing and most of the writing was a dead loss from all viewpoints. I was reminded of a story of two brothers who married two sisters and they were having a reunion feast of food and talk, the two sisters and one brother had wide reputations as tongue-waggers and these three had clacked without cessation for an hour when the wife of the fourth turned to him and said, "Lacy, old dear, you have not said anything for quite a while," he countered, "My dear, you may want a few more listeners but you certainly don't want any more talkers."

The first show was Chula Vista, I like to go there, the name does not remind me of man or Saint and if it means anything in particular I don't know what and am glad of it. I could grow better flowers under this name than John or Jim or Joeville, so was not surprised to find a real quality exhibit staged admirably in the beautiful auditorium of the school house. I will admit I wandered around some, looking for just The Auditorium, and dwelling in the past I was seeking it anywhere but in a school building—say as part of the civic centre, a vaudeville house or a dry goods—but this is emporium is it not? how words do keep multiplying. It was full early for the roses, but the annuals were very good. It is not part of a wise old bird's job to particularise or he would soon appear foolish, but those Chula Vistas have a fine sense of hospitality they lunched the judges and visitors wonderfully and the decision to put a special award of merit on the eats and the way of them was unanimous. It is a fact in

nature that continuously forces itself to the front, with mighty little effect it must be admitted, that with numbers and size coming something very well worth while goes, and flower shows are no exception. The atmosphere at Chula Vista was a family one, the whole show was a unit in arrangement, not obviously departmentized, and the folks, well they were folks not officials, and this does not mean that the show business was ineffective, far from it.

I hate to leave Chula Vista, but it is only a thought in these days of gasoline cum smell and noise to National City, whose show followed hard on and was most commendable under so ubiquitous a name, which is used for everything from a laundry to a bank, and means so little. Here the room was not so attractive but again the eats were most pleasing to the eye and the stomach. I make no apology for dwelling on the eats for while we have to eat I deem it common sense to enjoy the process, it undoubtedly aids digestion, and I have never yet run across a diet crank airing its crankiness at a flower show. Frankly I ate and ran at National City, I was so tempted to do it all over again.

Coronado the different, lived up to its name and staged its first flower show out in its Park under the pines and behind or partly behind a pine bough barricade, the show of flowers so exceeded the expectations of the promoters. It was a clever thought and a bold one for the weather man, not the one atop of the Federal building but the architect of winds particularly, might have so much to say. This day he was kind though he made it a thought too warm, if a suggestion is in order. I know something of flower shows so I partly appreciate what it meant to stage such a show as Coronado, and my sympathy and congratulations are with the promoters. I hate to mention lunch again so soon, but again we ate, I don't remember what, only critics remember details and my thought is chiefly of regret that I had to refuse proffered viands at last. Ladies, pleasant to look upon and courteous of speech, fairly staggered under loads of refreshments and it is only by the grace of the most excellent cooks that made indigestion impossible that I have been able to eat again. Among the exhibits I specially remember the school baskets, Frau Karl Druschki roses, the only really good whites I have seen this year, and some sweet peas, but this is not meant to say other things were not equally meritorious, for

it is not a judge but an early bird writing. I understand that during this show a Coronado Floral Association was born with one hundred and fifty members, and later recognized Harold Taylor's heroic exertions, I had almost said efforts, but the word seemed so puerile, having watched the labor, by electing him President, so there should be no doubt of his continuing to perspire in such a good cause. Don't think I am laughing, I have sweat and my collar often wilts.

Just as I thought I was through for the season I saw a notice in the Union that Escondido would show as per usual and the and the habit of attending had become so confirmed that going was a matter of course and the reward was plenty. Thank God for City Manager Rhodes, he had shut up the Camp Kearny road so we went by Murray or Murphy canyon, I don't know which, though numbers of people have tried to instruct in the difference, but I can't see that it matters, what I do care about was that the mustard was in bloom with that yellow green which is not a bit like the sweaters so mercifully going out of fashion, and the sticky mimulus rusted the hills in great patches while lavender calchortas stood up straight in the fast drying grass. What a wonderful thing is plenty of rain, how the earth does rejoice colorfully and how the fool man does often complain. Insignificant culverts or bridges were gone so that we forded little trickles of water that laughed gleefully as we splashed through, but what of it, to speed was a crime. I now recall that in three places men and horses and trucks were doing dusty things in the canyon bottom and more or less blocking the narrow road, but I really did not mind, in fact I hoped their crushing machinery might satisfactorily mangle the rocks, for there are such a lot of them there and they seemed to tolerate the flowers if they grew out of their way on the hillsides. I hated to get out of that canyon on to the paved road, but at the Poway grade the mimulus greeted us again and so close, there was a patch at one sharp bend where the sun shone through the blooms and made them not merely color, not merely color and light, but gave them life. Out into the open and more surprises, the mustard lined the paved highway for miles, as if to say, "Give me water enough and I will embroider this gray ribbon and make it a not too hard feature in our landscape, even Ramona might have walked along it without a sports costume or a leather coat. Fields of wild radish white to purple and then the new Lake Hodges supplying the one thing our landscape misses, that is away from the sea.

But that Flower Show is waiting. When we got to Escondido we called at the Chamber of Commerce as the primary source of all information useful and otherwise and asked for the Flower Show, the man in charge, I

hope temporarily, opined not too confidently that it was in the Auditorium which he indicated as being upstairs in the next block but it was not, and not until we encountered a butcher with a bunch of roses caressing a shoulder of mutton in his window did we locate it at the Grape Day Park. It was there all right and a good show it was, lots of roses with quality, albeit of the sorts of yesterday which on merit ought to be of today also, Cochetts, lots of them also Caroline Testout and Ulrich Bruner, they seemed like old friends, I could call them by their first names and frankly with later comers I am rather diffident, I say in my best society voice Mrs. S. K. Rindge, Countess this and Lady that and hope they won't think me presuming, and who could be jovial with Golden Emblem or Crimson Beauty or Hoosier Queen or whatever these new varieties not sorts are. Escondido had also vegetables on display looking good enough to eat and that's praise enough for any vegetable that knows its job.

I have nothing to say about the eats this time, I paid and supposing the other party satisfied, I am.

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#### MOISTURE CAPACITY OF SOIL INCREASED BY ORGANIC MATTER

In addition to adding plant food to the soil and improving its texture, organic matter, supplied by green-manure crops, stable manure, or in any other form, adds greatly to the moisture-holding capacity. It has been shown, says the United States Department of Agriculture, that while 100 pounds of sand can hold only 25 pounds of water and 100 pounds of clay 50 pounds, the same weight of humus or decaying organic matter will hold 190 pounds.

Clay soil containing organic matter is more friable than similar soil without organic matter. When the organic matter is entirely removed the clay remains compact during freezing and thawing. When the organic matter is returned the soil crumbles after freezing, just as the original soil.

Not only do the higher plants grow better in a soil rich in organic matter, but the activities of the soil bacteria are largely dependent on the supply of decaying vegetable matter. These bacteria need food and air. Their food is the dead vegetable matter, which they break down and make available to the higher plants. Most beneficial bacteria use air, and this they find more abundantly in a soil supplied with organic matter than in stiff clays poor in it. In sandy soils there is air enough, but the addition of humus helps to hold moisture and so benefits the bacteria as well as the higher plants.



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